

Remarks/Arguments:

Responsive to the Official Action dated April 6, 2005, reconsideration is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 19-20, 23 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshiki (JP 2002-184932) in view of Gilmore. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 19, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...an electronic component including first and second electrodes;
a board including third and fourth electrodes...

...a distance between the third electrode and the fourth electrode
is not more than a distance between the first electrode and the
second electrode...

In other words, the distance between the third and fourth electrodes on the board is equal to or less than the distance between the first electrode and the second electrode on the electronic component.

Yoshiki, by contrast, includes Fig. 2 with electrodes situated on chip capacitor 1 and further electrodes which are provided on ceramic substrate 2. The distance between the electrodes on substrate 2 is greater than the distance between the electrodes on capacitor 1. Thus, the configuration of electrodes in Yoshiki is completely opposite to that as recited in Applicants' claim 19.

An exemplary embodiment which corresponds to Applicants' claim 19 appears in Applicants' originally filed application at page 16, lines 14-23. As further set forth on line 23 of that page, Applicants' configuration prevents short circuiting between electrodes due to solder melting.

As the above features of Applicants' claim 19 are completely opposite to those disclosed by Yoshiki, and because Gilmore does not make up for the deficiency of Yoshiki, Applicants' claim 19 is patentable over the prior art.

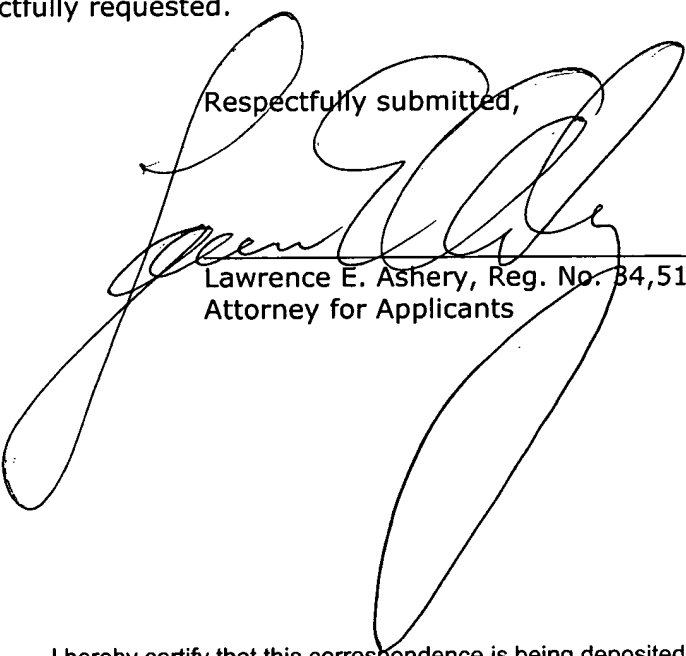
Claims 20, 23 and 24 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 19.

Claims 21 and 22 were objected to but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten into independent form. Those claims, however, are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 19.

Claims 1-18 have been allowed.

In view of the arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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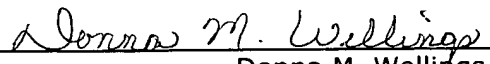
LEA/dmw

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